Government quarters constructed for Parliament Secretariats

2176. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the blocks of quarters constructed for Parliament Secretariats in Vasant Vihar have not been allotted to them;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) what action Government are taking in the matter;

(d) whether Government propose to order an inquiry into the whole affair; and

(e) whether it is also a fact that some more quarters are being constructed for Parliament Secretariats if so, the details thereof and by when these are likely to be completed for allotment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. On review, some quarters have been released to the Lok Sabha/ Rajya Sabha Secretariats, respectively in Vasant Vihar/R.K. Puram etc. after making necessary adjustments.

(e) The construction of 30 type 'C' quarters have just started and it is likely to take some time before these are ready for allotment.

Irrigation projects to fight drought conditions in Madhya Pradesh

2177. SHRI RADHAKISHAN MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to take up large number of Medium and minor irrigation works in Madhya Pradesh to reduce severety of drought and to increase the irrigation potential in the state; and

(b) if so, what additional funds Government propose to give to the State Government so that the on-going medium and minor irrigation projects are completed and new projects are taken up?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) The State Government of Madhya Pradesh have taken up a number of medium and minor irrigation schemes for increasing irrigation facilities. An additional irrigation potential of 1.08 million ha. is targetted to be created in the Seventh Plan from major, medium and minor irrigation schemes.

(b) Irrigation Projects are planned, funded and implemented by the State Governments and Central assistance is given in the form of block grants and loans.

Drought conditions in Madhya Pradesh

2178. SHRI RADHAKISHAN MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there have been drought conditions in some parts of Madhya Pradesh every year; and

(b) if so, what are the short and long term measures proposed to be taken to reduce the effect of drought conditions in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Yes, Sir. Some areas in Madhya Pradesh have been experiencing drought conditions in varying degrees in the last few years.

(b) It is primarily the responsibility of the State Government to undertake short and long-term measures required for reducing the impact of drought. However, the Government of India have been providing assistance for short-term measures such as agriculture input subsidy, drinking water programme, employment generation schemes, cattle conservation and fodder supply. The long-term programmes for reducing the impact of drought are also being implemented. These programmes include expansion of irrgation facilities, Drought Prone Area Programme, Desert Development Programme, National Rural Employment